

Spring 2001

THE WOLVERINE GUARD

A-10s Migrate South

**Soldiers, Airmen and
Recruiters of the Year**

Army Aviation

Women's History Month

A publication of the Michigan Army and Air National Guard
www.MichGuard.com

Bullets

New Military Retirement Administrator

Mr. Ken Baldwin is the new state military retirement administrator for the Michigan Army and Air National Guard. Guard retirees and soon-to-be-retired members seeking retirement information, may contact Mr. Baldwin at (517) 483-5692. Retirees with a change of address should send changes to Michigan National Guard Headquarters, ATTN:MITAG-RET, 2500 S. Washington Avenue, Lansing, MI 48913.

Commanders Must "Post"

Every Michigan Army and Air National Guard commander must designate a person to post technician job announcements "for a minimum of 14 calendar days...in those areas most accessible to all members of the National Guard." For more information, consult HQS MI REG 690-335; ANG 40-335; or call Ms. Carol McConnell at (517) 483-5593.

A Two Cent Raise

The mileage reimbursement rate for travel has increased from .325 to .345 as of Jan. 22, 2001. Travelers are reminded to have the appropriate unit representative or supervisor review, sign and date the travel voucher (DD Form 1351-2). On the new voucher, dated March 2000, block 20C/D is designed for this review.

A Camp for OUR Kids

The Michigan National Guard Youth Leadership Camp is an opportunity for your children to learn more about you and your service in the Michigan National Guard. The week-long camp exposes children, ages nine to 12, to marching and cadence, rafting and rappelling, leadership and self-esteem. This year's camp will be held July 8-13 at the Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center and is open to the children of active and retired Michigan National Guard members and Department of Military and Veterans Affairs employees. For more information or to volunteer to work during the camp, call Jaima McCabe at (517) 483-5838 or Sandy



Mahoney at (517) 483-5686. For an application, contact your unit full-timer.

A Guard Weekend on Mackinac Island

The 45th Annual National Guard Association of Michigan Conference will be held May 10-13, 2001, at the Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island. Activities will include: the business meeting, a golf outing, a pig roast and a sunset cruise, in addition to plenty of free time. For more information and a registration form, call NGAM at 1-800-477-1644 or visit online at www.ngam.org.

Advertise your Pride

Units, individuals and businesses have until April 6 to place an advertisement in the 2001 NGAM Conference Book. The ads pay for the cost of the book which updates members on Michigan National Guard activities. Cost (black and white): Full-page, \$200; half-page, \$105; 1/3-page, \$70; business card-size, \$25. Ads must be "camera ready." Color ads are also available. For more information, contact NGAM at 1-800-477-1644.

NGAM Seeks Nominations

Each year, the Maj. Gen. John Johnston and Brig. Gen. Jerome Mathieu awards are presented to one airman and one soldier, respectively, who have distinguished themselves by making prominent contributions to the Michigan National Guard. To nominate an individual, send the individual's name, rank and unit with a brief description of contributions to NGAM, 300 Elvin Court, Lansing, MI 48913 or e-mail your nomination to NGAM@voyager.net. Deadline is April 1.

Active Duty Special Work Available

Volunteers are needed to fill various positions during a two-week Junior Reserve Officer Training Course to be held at the Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center, June 10-23. Volunteers will work in an ADSW status or alternate A.T. (pending commander's approval). Positions are available for soldiers who can train and lead in the following areas: tactics, medical, marksmanship, rappelling, land navigation, bivouac,

obstacle course, platoon sports, water activities, public affairs and food preparation. Units are also being sought to provide static displays. For more information, contact Sgt. 1st Class Gregory Jones, recruiting and retention, at (517) 483-5411 or e-mail him at gregory.jones@mi.ngb.army.mil.

Vacation Plans

As you make vacation plans, consider hoisting a tent or parking your camper on one of 70 camping sites at the Camp Grayling Trailer Park. Sites range from complete water and electricity hook-up to very rustic. A private beach is available for swimming, fishing and boating. Other activities nearby include numerous golf courses, such as Fox Run, which offers a military discount; hiking through Hartwick Pines State Forest; and canoeing or tubing down the Au Sable River. The park is open annually from May 15 to September 15. The daily rate is \$13 and seasonal lots are \$675. Reservations may be made at (517) 348-9033.



Summer Jobs Available at Camp Grayling

The following Active Duty Special Work (ADSW) jobs are available from June 1 to Aug. 31: Environmental Officer, O-3; Recreation, E-4/5; Materials Handler, E-4/6; Supply, E-4; Housing Assistant, E-7; Billeting/Finance, E-4; Auto Worker (63-series), E-6; Building and Maintenance Inspector, E-4; Office Automation, E-5; Range Operations, O-1/3 and E-6/7; Range Maintenance, E-1/4; Telecommunications Mechanic, E-4; Recycle Operations, E-4; Firefighters (51M), E-3/7; Helicopter Pilot, CW2; Helicopter Crew Chief, E-6; Airfield Operations, E-5; Fuel Handlers, E-4; Military Police, E-5; Administrative Specialists, E-5. Selected personnel will drill and perform annual training with parent unit; however, A.T. may be performed at Camp Grayling, with commander's approval. Send your resume to: Headquarters, Bldg. 117, ATTN: CW2 Wayne Wells, Camp Grayling, MI 49739-0001. Please direct any questions to Mr. Wells at (517) 344-6106.



At Last!

90-Day Deployments for the Army National Guard

Recent approval of our request for the 46th Military Police Company to support Operation Joint Forge in two 90-day increments, is unprecedented. When nearly 80 of their unit members deploy to Tazar, Hungary, late this summer, they will become the first Army National Guard unit to break the Army's code on 180-day mobilizations.

With the Army depending more and more on the National Guard to support real-world missions and operations, the Guard had to develop a new approach to effectively balance the needs of the Army and the real-world needs of our Guard members.

Fortunately, the Army is beginning to see that our continued support depends on the ability of our soldiers to keep their employers and families appreciative of their membership in the Guard. And not surprisingly, 90-day deployments are much easier for everyone concerned to manage and support than the Army's standard 180-day alternative.

While the Army has yet to consider full implementation of 90-day Guard deployments, they realize they have as much at stake in the successful mobilization of the 46th as we do. They know the key to a healthy Guard partnership depends on supportive families and employers. So, the Army is taking notes on how to process, train, mobilize and demobilize the 46th as a model for the future.

Gen. John W. Hendrix, commanding general, U.S. Army Forces Command, approved our initiative in concert with support from the U.S. Supreme Allied Commander in Europe, Gen. Joseph W. Ralston. Both of these forward-looking leaders are genuinely working with us to find better ways to take advantage of the Guard's strengths without jeopardizing retention. This decision is being universally recognized as one significant step in the right direction.

There has been tremendous support

in the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate for cutting Guard deployments from 180 days to 90 days. Last year, Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson led a congressional delegation to Bosnia to visit the Texas Guard's 49th Armored Division. During her visit she said that it would be her hope that if we use Guard units in peacekeeping missions that we would have much shorter mission times.

"If we're going to take people away from their homes and employment, we want to keep the families' and employer's support," she said. "We want to keep our Guard member's ability to continue in the workplace without severe disruptions, [so we can] retain the best people in the Guard."

This ground swell of support for cutting 180-day Army Guard mobilizations coincides with continuing Army Guard unit assignments of 180 days in Bosnia, Kosovo, the Sinai and many others. This month, Michigan's 126th Press Camp Headquarters will mobilize for a six-month tour in Bosnia supporting Operation Joint Forge. Of course, this deployment is reflective of the support Michigan historically provides the Army.

To refresh your memory on some of the missions the Army Guard supported in the past few years, recall that our 238th Aviation Battalion supported a five-month deployment to Haiti in support of Operation Uphold Democracy. Members of the 177th Military Police Brigade spent six months in Germany supporting Operation Joint Endeavor. The 1439th Engineer Detachment spent several months in Tazar, Hungary, supporting Operation Joint Endeavor. And now, with the 126th deploying for six months, our efforts to convince the Army to standardize 90 day deployments through the example being set by the 46th is more urgent than ever.

While the Army Guard may have a lot riding on the 46th's success, the Air Force is already experiencing real



success with its 90-day Expeditionary Aerospace Force (EAF) program. All of Michigan's Air Guard units have supported a wide variety of missions around the world since the Air Force developed this scheduling model to limit deployments to 90 days.

"We are moving into the EAF for two reasons," former Air Force Secretary F. Whitten Peters said. "First, to make sure the nation has the trained aerospace forces it needs. And second, to make sure our people have relief from OPTEMPO in a turbulent world. We will never fix our retention rates unless we can guarantee people that in peacetime, they will have a personal life."

Today, as always, the Guard continues to serve and work as a full partner in ongoing military operations, at home and around the world. We are simply looking for the Army to take the next step in modernizing the way we support ongoing operations, by giving us the flexibility to develop unit packages and to adopt a 90-day limit on mobilizations. In times of national crisis and emergency, the President can exercise the 270-day option, but in peacetime, our families, employers, soldiers and airmen should not have to turn their lives upside down when a logical alternative exists.

E. Gordon Stump

The Adjutant General of Michigan

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Hi there Guard family and a very happy new year!

I want you to know that I sincerely appreciate "The Wolverine Guard." It keeps me updated on Guard family activities. It's like getting your hometown newspaper on a regular basis.

Sincerely,
Spc. Richard Dean Warner (ret)
St. Petersburg, Fla.

Dear Editor:

While cleaning out some old files, I came across two articles that I wrote and were printed in "The Michigan National Guardsman" [today "The Wolverine Guard"] in 1979. I have long since retired (27+ years of proud service) but when I reread the article, "Why I Stay in the Guard," I bet my boots you hear many of the same reasons as I wrote 22 years ago.

Thank you for your time and I hope you find space to reprint these articles.

Sincerely,
Capt. Mike Paymar (ret)
Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

Quality: an integrated approach?

By Lt. Col. Berri Meyers
Quality Advisor

How can we fit quality into everything we do without increasing our workloads? Won't this quality dimension just make everything more complicated?

Both of these answers *could* be true, if we just overlay our quality initiatives onto existing procedures, processes and assessments. The trick is to re-look and then maybe redesign our routine actions to build quality into the things we do.

The simple act of flowcharting routine procedures may show that technology has changed the way we accomplish a process that we now take for granted. Perhaps we're gathering data and compiling reports which are inconclusive or fail to provide us with usable information. Could a brief work team review show us what we are missing, or maybe verify that we're still on the right track? This small investment of time can pay big rewards.

Recently the Michigan Army Na-

The following is a portion of one of the articles.

Do you remember the waiting list to get into a unit? Well it's gone, and in its place you find bonuses for joining and bonuses for extending. There are contests to see what unit can achieve the highest enlistment and retention. What ever happened to the attitude of serving your Country? Do you remember it? Some of us still do.

The following letter was "carbon copied" to "The Wolverine Guard."

Dear Commander, 1438th Engineer Det.:

We are summer seasonal Camp Grayling Trailer Park residents and have been for many years. We are sending you this note to thank your group for the excellent job they did on our trailer park beach and beach road. The job was superb. It is the best grading job that has ever been done since we've been coming here, which is 38 summers.

Thank you so much.
Sgt. Gordon Richardson (ret) and Carole Richardson

tional Guard developed a comprehensive Strategic Plan to ensure that we stay focused on the right goals and objectives. The Air National Guard has embarked on a comprehensive program to accomplish necessary strength targets by the end of fiscal year 2002. Both of these initiatives have used special work-teams to develop programs which can have huge impacts on their respective futures. Both programs have been designed with essential quality elements. Both programs will succeed because quality elements, like work-teams, specific goals, performance assessments and metrics for monitoring, are being developed into programmatic processes; not added after-the-fact.

Quality efforts can and should be integrated into our daily business practices during IDT training, weekdays and upon deployment. If we define achievable goals, establish consensus on how we will approach success and then adequately resource our efforts, we will hit our target every time.

THE WOLVERINE GUARD

The Wolverine Guard is an unofficial publication authorized under the provision of AR 360-1 and AR 360-81. The views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army or the Department of the Air Force. It is published quarterly by the Michigan National Guard, State Public Affairs Office, with a press run of 14,500.

Readers are encouraged to submit comments, articles and information for publication to: The Wolverine Guard, 2500 S. Washington Avenue, Lansing, Michigan 48913 or call the editor at (517) 483-5813.

Submission deadlines:

Spring Issue (March) by Jan. 25
Summer Issue (June) by April 25
Fall Issue (Sept.) by July 25
Winter Issue (Dec.) by Oct. 25

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Airman 1st Class Garrett Kozminski, 110th Fighter Wing, removes the wheel chocks from an A-10 prior to take-off. The 110th trained in Arizona this past winter. See story on page 11. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Erickson, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base.)

Community

According to the American Red Cross, only 5 percent of Americans give blood; yet, 97 percent of us will have received a blood transfusion by age 75.

During a January Blood Drive sponsored by the 63rd Troop Command, Jackson, Mich., Master Sgt. Randy Erridge, 107th Quartermaster Battalion, did his part and donated one pint of blood, adding to the 63rd's total contribution of 58 units. (Photo by Officer Candidate Denis Prisk, Headquarters Detachment, State Area Command)



Training

In January, Company B(-), 156th Signal Battalion, Adrian, Mich., spent the drill week-end outdoors, surviving Cold Weather Training. Here, Sgt. John Dillon and Spc. Scott Fairbanks pull an ahkio--a 200 pound capacity fibreglass sled used for transporting equipment or casualties in the snow. (Photo by Spc. Jason Deters, Company B, 156th Signal Battalion)

Recognition

During a lunch hour ceremony, Federal Employee, Council Against Domestic Abuse Volunteer, Gulf War Veteran and Michigan National Guard Member Master Sgt. Marlene Schneider was recognized as the 2000 Greater Lansing Federal Executive Association Employee of the Year.

Schneider, a property management specialist for the Michigan National Guard, is highly regarded by both supervisors and peers. However, in the past year, she has missed three weeks of work. She was diagnosed with and treated for breast cancer.

"On numerous occasions while recovering from radiation treatments, chemotherapy and surgery, Marlene made calls from her home to arrange her schedule for the next work week," said Sue Schnipke, Schneider's supervisor. "Throughout her entire career, Marlene has always been an inspiration to the people she works with; but this last year has made her reputation, and the example she sets, even more remarkable."

"Her focus is 'always put the soldier first,'" added Schnipke. Schneider, who routinely works with soldiers who must travel some distance to conduct business with her in Lansing, is known for working during the lunch hour and during off duty time to complete the work so the visiting soldier can head home without the need for a return visit.

When interviewed about her accomplishments, Schneider didn't want to talk about herself. "Gary Tucker should have received this award," she stated, proving Schnipke's point that she always puts others first.

Indeed, the nomination of Sgt. 1st Class Gary Tucker, a tool and parts attendant at the Army Aviation Support Facility

in Grand Ledge, Mich., was a close choice; he came in second. In fact, two of the three top federal employees were from the Michigan National Guard.

"I am extremely proud of both employees," stated Maj. Gen. E. Gordon Stump, the adjutant general. "They are fine examples of the quality work force present within the Michigan National Guard."

Tucker, who has been the president of the National Federation of Federal Employees Local 2132 (the union for National Guard technicians) for 26 years, created a successful partnership between top Michigan Guard officials and the union. "We have one of the most successful labor-management partnership councils in the United States," said Stump. "The virtual elimination of labor-management disputes because of these partnerships, has saved thousands of dollars in legal expenses."

Other workplace improvements initiated by Tucker include team based hiring, team based evaluations, new reduction in force procedures, and a true partnership attitude throughout management and labor within the Michigan National Guard.



Mr. Ghulam Sumbal, vice president of the Greater Lansing Federal Executive Association, (top photo, right) presents Master Sgt. Marlene Schneider with the Federal Employee of the Year award. Maj. Gen. E. Gordon Stump (bottom photo, right) presents Sgt. 1st Class Gary Tucker with a runner-up certificate.

Reaching the Top

Top Soldiers, Airmen, Recruiters named

Top Soldiers Named

Last fall, soldiers from infantrymen to computer programmers gathered in Lansing for the annual Michigan Army National Guard Soldier of the Year competition.

But, long before they reached this state-level competition, which names the all around best Michigan soldiers in four categories, the 11 finalists, from five major commands and more than 100 Michigan Army National Guard units, had to first compete and win at the unit, battalion, and brigade level.

The Guardsmen who compete in this competition report to a military board where they are quizzed and judged on their knowledge of current events; proper wear of the Army uniform; drill and ceremonies; leadership; training; Army programs; and basic soldiering skills.

This spring, the following three winners will represent the Michigan Army National Guard in four categories at the National Guard Bureau level competition.

Soldier of the Year Spc. Carl T. Cole

Spc. Cole is a bridge crew member and a radio telephone operator for the 1437th Engineer Company, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. He attended basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., and has been in the Michigan Guard for two years.

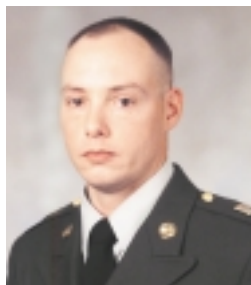
In civilian life, Cole works as an electronic technician for the Edison Sault Electric Company, Sault Ste. Marie, and recently completed a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Lake Superior State University.



NCO of the Year and Stewart Medal Winner Sgt. Bruce C. Bates

Sgt. Bates is a signal operator and the unit armorer at Company B, 156th Signal Battalion, Adrian, Mich. He has been in the Michigan Guard for nearly 18 years.

In civilian life, Bates is a permanent molder for Mettalloxy Foundry Division in Hudson, Mich. and an advisor for Explorer Post 656, an extension of the Boy Scouts.

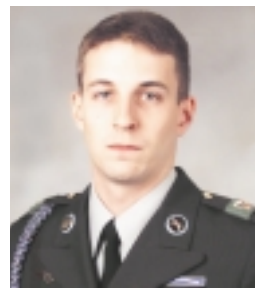


NCO of the Year (AGR Category) Staff Sgt. David Squier

Staff Sgt. Squier works full-time for the Michigan Guard as the training NCO for Company F, 425 Infantry, Mount Clemens, Mich. He has been in the military for eight years. He attended basic training at Fort Benning, Ga., in 1992. From

there, he served on active duty in the Army at Fort Bragg, N.C., for five years as a rifle team leader. In 1997, he joined the Michigan Army National Guard.

Squier has attended numerous military schools, including Airborne, Ranger and Jumpmaster schools and is currently pursuing a degree at Macomb Community College. In his spare time, Squier is an assistant scout master for the Boy Scouts of America.



Top Airmen Named

The Airmen of the Year awards name the all around best Michigan airmen in four categories. Airmen must be nominated for the competition by Air Guard leadership and are judged on community and military involvement; civilian and military education; self-improvement initiatives; and other accomplishments. This spring, the following four Air Guard winners will represent the Michigan Air National Guard at the National Guard Bureau level competition.

Airman of the Year Senior Airman William D. Baldry

Airman Baldry is an information management specialist with the 110th Fighter Wing, Battle Creek and has been in the military for nearly eight years. He attended basic training in 1993 at Fort Benning, Ga., and then served on active duty in the Army as a mechanized infantryman at Fort Carson, Colo. From there he transferred to the 1430th Engineer Company, Fort Custer, Michigan Army National Guard, and was assigned as a heavy equipment operator. He joined the Air Guard in 1997.

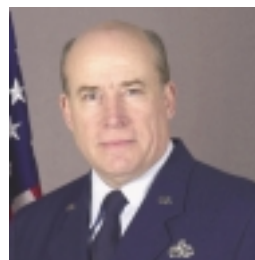
In civilian life, Baldry is an accounting specialist for Starr Commonwealth, Albion, Mich., and recently earned a bachelor's degree in accounting at Davenport University, Kalamazoo, Mich.



NCO of the Year Master Sgt. Darryl S. Dugas

Dugas is a production controller with the 191st Logistics Support Flight, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mount Clemens, and has been in the military for 13 years. He spent his first four military years on active duty in the Navy and later, in 1973, joined the Michigan Air National Guard where he was assigned as a crew chief. Since that time Dugas has served in a variety of supervisory positions including plans and scheduling, security, and budget.

In civilian life, Dugas is an associate at The Home Depot, Inc. of Chesterfield, Mich., and has served on the St. Clair County Intermediate School District Board of Education for the



past 14 years. He is also an elder at his church. He is a graduate of the NCO Academy and holds two associate degrees: one in business management and one in marketing.

Senior NCO of the Year Senior Master Sgt. Bruce S. Collins

Master Sgt. Collins works full-time for the Michigan National Guard as a maintenance chief with the 235th Air Traffic Control Squadron, Selfridge Air National Guard Base. He has been in the military for 25 years. He started his military career in 1975 with basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, where he was an honor graduate. From there he attended avionics communication specialist training at Keesler Air Force Base, Miss., and then served on active duty at England Air Force Base, La. In 1979, he joined the Michigan Air National Guard where he has served in a variety of positions including avionics communications and navigation; quality assurance; foreign object damage NCO; section supervisor; technical order distribution; plans, scheduling and documentation; and production scheduler. Additionally, in 1995, Collins was named the Outstanding Senior NCO of the Year for the 127th Wing, Michigan Air National Guard.

In his spare time, Collins serves as the volunteer executive director for the Trinity Lutheran Church in Clinton Township, Mich., and is active in the Boy Scouts of America.



First Sergeant of the Year Master Sgt. Cathy M. Czarnecki

Master Sgt. Czarnecki is the first sergeant at the 171st Aerial Port Flight, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, and has been in the military for 15 years. She started her military career in 1986 with basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base. From there she attended additional training at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, and then served on active duty at Okinawa Air Base, Japan, until December 1987. From 1987 to 1992 she served closer to home at Wurtsmith Air Force Base, Mich., and later transferred to Selfridge. In 1993, while serving at Selfridge, she joined the Michigan Air National Guard and was assigned as an air transportation specialist. Czarnecki is a graduate of the First Sergeant's Academy and is currently pursuing a business degree from Macomb Community College.

In civilian life, Czarnecki is a street utility worker for Consumers Energy Company in Mount Clemens. In her spare time, she volunteers for local school fund-raisers and is on the employee's club committee.



Top Recruiters Named

Michigan Army National Guard Recruiter of the Year

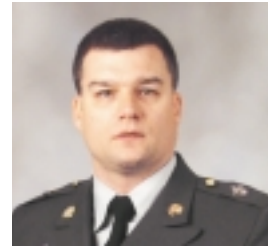
Sgt. 1st Class Daniel G. Kurian

Sgt. 1st Class Kurian of Ishpeming, Mich., has been named

the 2000 Michigan Army National Guard Recruiter of the Year. To earn the title, also known as the Chief's Fifty Winner, Kurian enlisted 52 people into the Michigan Guard, out-recruiting his closest peer by 14 recruits and nearly doubling the national minimum.

After sweeping the state-level competition, Kurian moved up to the Region IV Competition, which includes Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, and Iowa. He again took first place and moved on to the national competition where his winning streak ended, but narrowly: he was named the runner-up.

Kurian, who has been in the Michigan National Guard for 14 years, attended basic training in 1986 at Fort Jackson, S.C. After his initial training, he served as a radio and teletype operator with the 107th Engineer Battalion, Ishpeming, Mich. In 1994, he became the area's full-time recruiter.



Michigan Air National Guard Recruiter of the Year

Staff Sgt. Vivian Sellers

As a new recruiter for the Michigan Air National Guard, being named the Rookie Recruiter of the Year indeed signals a real "up-and-comer," but when that same rookie also out-recruits the entire recruiting staff, you know you've got someone special.

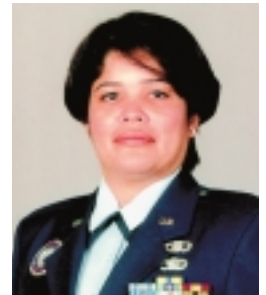
Staff Sgt. Vivian Sellers of New Baltimore, Mich., has been named the Rookie Recruiter of the Year and the Michigan Air National Guard Recruiter of the Year. During her first year of recruiting she has enlisted 72 people, averaging six enlistments per month. The national average is 2.7 per month.

After taking the state-level competition, Sellers moved up to the Region IV Competition, which includes Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Washington D.C., West Virginia, Kentucky and Maryland. Although the competition has been conducted, the winners names will not be released until June.

Sellers, who has been in the Michigan National Guard for 16 years, initially joined the Michigan Army National Guard and attended basic training 1985 at Fort Jackson, S.C. She served with the 461st Supply Company, Detroit, and Company C, 156th Signal Battalion, Monroe, Mich., for 10 years before transferring to the Air Guard. As a member of the Air Guard, Sellers served as a computer systems operator and later cross-trained as a chaplain's assistant. In 1996, she graduated from Chaplain Service Support Apprentice training as an honor graduate. Then, in September 1999, she successfully completed Recruiting School.

In addition to her full-time work as a recruiter, Sellers is a member of the NAACP, the Latin Americans for Social Economic Development, the Air Force Sergeants Association, and the National Guard Association of Michigan.

Sellers is the mother of four, one who is a current member of the 127th Wing.



The Michigan National Guard Delivers

Guard Joins Habitat for Humanity Partnership

By Sara Benac
State Public Affairs



Spc. Dermita Edwards (left) and Staff Sgt. Nate Kempf, members of Detachment 1, 1462nd Transportation Company, Augusta, Mich., deliver lumber for a Habitat for Humanity home.

"It's been a tremendous help to have the Michigan National Guard involved. It makes scheduling the deliveries much easier," said Kathy Dykman, program director of Habitat for Humanity of Michigan. "We just give the Guard the delivery information and a contact name and the walls are delivered. I think it's really great that a governmental agency is willing to work with a non-profit organization to help citizens of the state. It sends a good message about them to our communities."

The Michigan National Guard made it their summer long initiative to transport the pre-fabricated walls constructed at the Michigan correctional facilities to the sites coordinated by the local affiliates of Habitat for Humanity. They delivered a total of 125 sets of interior and exterior walls. The Maxwell house was their 12th delivery of the summer.

Two Michigan National Guard transportation companies, the 1461st of Midland and the 1462nd of Jackson, supported the effort as part of their annual training.

"This was a perfect training mission for our soldiers," said Lt. Col. Janet Phipps, who oversaw the soldiers and units delivering the homes. "It gave them an opportunity to use their military skills for a real and very worthwhile program. The delivery of the more than 30 homes throughout Michigan in our two-week annual training period was good use of our capabilities and a rewarding mission for our citizen-soldiers."

Habitat for Humanity of Michigan and the Michigan Department of Corrections want to continue the partnership with the Michigan National Guard so that building can continue year round.

"I was surprised at how many people came together to help contribute to our home. It was very exciting to see," said Cheryl Maxwell. "We never thought that we would own a home so soon."

"I always hoped that once my husband's back was better and we were both working, we would be able to get a house. Still, I thought it would be way down the road."

Vernon and Cheryl Maxwell's dream of owning a home seemed impossible after their rented home in Cheboygan burned down in August 1999.

After the fire, the Maxwells and their four children struggled to put their lives back together. Vernon had suffered a work-related injury prior to the fire which caused him to be on disability, so Cheryl began working eight to 10-hour days, seven days a week, to support the family. For three months, they lived with Cheryl's sister: there were 10 people in the home, including six children, and one bathroom.

Then in December 1999, the Maxwells learned that dreams can come true. They were chosen by the Cheboygan County Habitat for Humanity to be owners of a new home.

"We were so surprised when we found out!" said Cheryl Maxwell. "We never expected we would get picked. If not for Habitat, we would be living in a mobile home that needed a lot of work."

The Maxwell's good fortune was made possible by a new partnership between the Michigan Department of Corrections, Habitat for Humanity of Michigan and Cheboygan-area volunteers. The joint effort is part of the Prison Build Program that was developed by Gov. John Engler in 1998 with a \$250,000 state grant.

Under the new partnership, Michigan Department of Corrections inmates

construct the interior and exterior wall sections at six correctional facilities around the state. In the last two years, the Prison Build Program has completed 180 homes.

"The Maxwell home was our first time using the prison built walls. Everything went wonderfully," said Susan Leonardi, executive director of Cheboygan Habitat for Humanity. "It was an effortless process on our part. Habitat for Humanity of Michigan coordinated everything; we just had to make sure that there were volunteers to help unload the walls."

The Michigan National Guard became involved in the partnership this year, when the Michigan Department of Corrections asked for help with delivering the completed walls to the Habitat for Humanity sites. Once the completed walls arrive, they are unloaded and Habitat for Humanity volunteers begin assembling them.

"Whenever we can help enrich the quality of life in our state, we will," said Maj. Gen. E. Gordon Stump, the adjutant general of Michigan. "Our Guard members are always eager to support community service efforts. This rewarding inter-agency program allows us to participate in a noble cause."

The Maxwell's home is one of 58 completed through the Michigan National Guard's involvement in the partnership.

Snowbirds

A-10s Migrate South

By Capt. Robert DeCoster
110th Public Affairs



In search of weather more conducive to flying, the 110th Fighter Wing, Battle Creek Air National Guard Base, launched nine A-10s and deployed 152 members to Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz., in early January.

Snowbird, as the deployment is called, occurs annually, usually in February or March. However, this year it was moved to January to accommodate a unit inspection.

The weather, although far from perfect this year, enabled the pilots and ground crews to launch 186 sorties for 373.6 hours of flying time. "This proved especially valuable to the unit since, during December, we were unable to fly for 20 days due to poor weather in Battle Creek," said Maj. Timothy G. Ringquist, a pilot with the 172nd Fighter Squadron.

There are other benefits to heading to Davis-Monthan, however. The area ranges and support Forward Air Controller units allow pilots to fire ordnance under conditions that are not normally available at home. In short, they can train the way they may be called upon to fight.

"Almost every sortie had a FAC

[forward air controller] for the pilot to coordinate target identification with," said Ringquist. "The ranges also enabled them to fire rockets which are essential to FAC training."

Combat Search and Rescue training with helicopter rescue units were also conducted while the unit was deployed.

"Morale was really good," said Master Sgt. Willy Reinhardt, first sergeant for the Aircraft Generation Squadron. "It is a good chance to accomplish the mission, develop teamwork and to do a little sight seeing."

Of the 152 troops deployed, seven were from the 110th Security Forces Squadron to provide force protection. "They also took advantage of being on an active duty installation to interact with active duty forces and get caught up on the latest information and techniques in the career field," said Senior Master Sgt. Edward A. Bartha, security forces superintendent.

Michigan pilots also got caught up on some of the latest information and techniques while working with new equipment and airframe up-grades that will soon be available at home.



Staff Sgt. Ken Dark (top photo) signals to Maj. Kier Knapp to taxi his A-10 Thunderbolt II. Before departure, Knapp (bottom) performs pre-flight checks. (Photos by Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Erickson, 355th Communications Squadron, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base)

Blackhawks and Beyond

New aircraft bring new missions to Army Guard aviators

By Master Sgt. Tom Springer
State Public Affairs Office

Pilots are usually cool customers, but Chief Warrant Officer Steve Rozell can barely contain himself when asked to compare a Vietnam-era UH-1 Huey to a UH-60 Blackhawk.

“It’s like going from a ‘63 split window Corvette to a 2000 Corvette,” said Rozell, maintenance officer for Detachment 2, 106th Aviation. “It’s that big a difference. A Huey handles like a tank when compared to a Blackhawk. With four rotor blades and four tail blades (as opposed to two each for the Huey) it’s just a smoother, more powerful animal.”

“We want to improve our ability to support small-scale contingencies, as well as large combat operations. We’ve got to be ready for places like Somalia and Kosovo as opposed to just facing Soviet hordes coming through the Fulda Gap.”

--Col. Al Peterson

The new fleet of Blackhawks represents the biggest change in Michigan Army Guard aviation since 1971. At that time, the state began a conversion from piston-powered, Korean War-era aircraft to turbine-powered, Vietnam-era Hueys, Kiowas and eventually, AH-1 Cobra gunships.

With the new aircraft comes a dramatic increase in mission capability. Blackhawks are faster than Hueys, can carry more troops, and unlike Hueys, can transport sling-loaded cargo such as a Humvee, towed artillery piece, fuel pod, or commo shelter. (See sidebar.) The Blackhawk’s extra hauling capacity will require that more soldiers in ground units become qualified as equipment riggers.

Yet the conversion to Blackhawks is more than a matter of trading old helicopters for new ones. Michigan’s aviation units are also being reorganized, in keeping with an Army-wide program.

In the past, says Col. Al Peterson, state aviation officer, Army aviation battalions were built around a single type of helicopter. Basically, attack helicopter units were equipped with Cobras, while utility (transport) units flew Hueys.

That’s all changing thanks to the Army’s multi-functional battalion (MFB) structure. Under the MFB plan, most aviation battalions will field utility, attack and reconnaissance helicopters—10 of each type per battalion.

“The latest threats require small, multiple-aircraft taskforces,” said Peterson, a combat veteran who flew Chinooks in Vietnam.

“We want to improve our ability to support small-scale contingencies, as well as large combat operations. We’ve got to be ready for places like Somalia and Kosovo as opposed to just facing Soviet hordes coming through the Fulda Gap (in Germany).”

Peterson said the MFB arrangement also will make for a more well rounded force. “It used to be that Army aviation NCOs and officers were ‘stovepiped.’ They could spend their whole career with one type of helicopter. Now they’ll get more overall experience.”

According to Peterson, as the modernization plan takes place, the structure of Michigan Army Guard aviation units will change. “Today we have 24 Cobras and 26 Hueys. Within three years we expect to be well on the way to converting to a fleet of primarily Blackhawks and Apaches. We will also see Kiowas as the interim reconnaissance helicopter.”

In the meantime, Michigan Army Guard aviators are keeping busy with training. Pilots, mechanics and support troops are attending active-duty resident courses, as well as classes during drill weekends.

On a Sunday afternoon in January, the state’s two Blackhawks were warm and dry inside their Grand Ledge hangar. Engine parts and tools were laid out on the floor and on work benches. Yet the choppers weren’t in disrepair – they were simply being used as live training aids. Both the aircraft and the students were in the capable hands of Staff Sgt. Scott Robertson, Detachment 2, 106th Aviation.

“Our mechanics will be trained in a matter of months – not years,” said Robertson. “They’re sharp guys. And the people we’re bringing in to do the training know these aircraft frontward and backward.”

Robertson should know – he’s one of those people. A Gulf



Blackhawk vs. Huey				
	Horse-power	Top Airspeed	Troop Capacity	Cargo Capacity
Blackhawk	3,060	193 knots	14	8,000 lbs.
Huey	1,400	124 knots	11	2,500 lbs.



War veteran, he served 13 years in the Army as a crew chief and flight engineer on Blackhawks and Chinooks. After that, he worked for Dynacorp, a civilian contractor that repairs and refurbishes Army aircraft nationwide. While visiting Grand Ledge with Dynacorp, Robertson was offered his current job as a fulltime technician.

As a team leader, Robertson will join Company C, 2nd Battalion, 147th Aviation when they move to Selfridge. The unit will occupy what is now the Navy Reserve hangar, next door to the Company F, 425th Infantry facility.

"Our mission will be to fix aircraft," Robertson said. "And we're ready. Just give them to the line guys and let them break 'em."

Last October, the Army Aviation Support Facility in Grand Ledge, Mich., held an open house to announce the arrival of two UH-60 Blackhawks. Curious civilians, community leaders, military officials and the media swarmed the grounds to help usher in the new aircraft. As a part of the celebration, members of the media receive an orientation flight (top, left photo). The media had lots of questions for Maj. Gen. E. Gordon Stump, the adjutant general (top, right) and Staff Sgt. Scott Robertson, Detachment 2, Company E, 106th Aviation (above). Young and old alike climbed inside the Blackhawks to get a closer look (far left). Capt. Paul Cardenas talks aviation with a member of the community. (Photos by Sgt. Ron Raflik, state photographer)

For the Record

How to find personnel documents and unit histories

By Sallie Redfern
State Public Affairs



Do you know whom to contact if you need replacement medals, copies of separation papers or medical records? The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) in St. Louis, Mo. serves as the repository for military service and medical records.

There are 70 million records stored in three warehouses in cardboard file boxes and those records are sorted through by hand. The center receives approximately 6,000 requests daily.

In addition to hand-sorting, NPRC employees are faced with another obstacle: missing documents. A disastrous fire engulfed the center in 1973. The blaze lasted two days and swept through the sixth floor, leaving very little intact. Today, there are five floors remaining. Nearly 80 percent of the 22 million records for Army personnel discharged between Nov. 1, 1912 and Jan. 1, 1960, and about 75 percent of the records for Air Force

personnel with surnames from Hubbard, James E., through "Z" discharged between Sept. 25, 1947 and Jan. 1, 1964, were destroyed. Records are reconstructed only on request.

When making a request, be sure to include enough information to identify the record.

Required information includes: full name, military service number, branch and approximate dates of

service. Date and place of birth, as well as units of assignment, are also

helpful. To expedite your request for separation papers or other documents, fill out Standard Form 180, "Request Pertaining to Military Records." An SF 180 may be found on NPRC's Web site at www.nara.gov/regional/mpr.html or call the relevant reference branch (see below).

Personnel and medical records are available to veterans or the next of kin of deceased veterans free of charge. The signature of the veteran or next of kin is required for the release of information. Some information is available to the public including name, dates of service, source of commission, rank/grade, promotion sequence number, serial/service number, photograph, place of induction and separation, duty assignments, records of court martial trials (unless classified), military education/schooling and information concerning decorations and awards earned.

If you are filing a claim for VA medical benefits, do not request a copy of your military medical record from NPRC. The original medical records are provided by the NPRC when requested by the VA.

If you need original or replacement awards, contact the specific branch of the military served (see sidebar on page 13). The NPRC does, however, verify awards for Air Force (including Army Air Forces) and Army personnel. Verification papers are then forwarded to the appropriate service department for issuance of the medals. Approximately 1,000 medal requests are handled each month by NPRC staff.

An individual can expect to wait about 10 weeks when requesting documents. Medical emergencies are always handled first. The NPRC is working to install computer systems

There are 70 million records stored in three warehouses in cardboard file boxes and those records are sorted through by hand.

For original or replacement awards or to obtain an SF 180, contact:

Records Reconstruction Branch
Army, 1912-1959 and Air Force 1947-1963 for individuals with last names after Hubbard, James D.
(314) 538-4261

Army Reference Branch
1960 to present
(314) 538-4261

Air Force Reference Branch
1964 to present and 1947 to 1963 for individuals with last names of A through Hubbard, James D.
(314) 538-4243

Navy Reference Branch
Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard
(314) 538-4141

but at present is still operating as it did 50 years ago. For assistance contact: National Personnel Records Center, 9700 Page Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63132-5100.

Michigan Air National Guard

If you are currently in the Michigan Air National Guard and need copies of your medical records, contact your unit medical squadron. If you need information in your personnel file, contact your unit personnel office.

If you are separated or retired from the Michigan Air National Guard and need copies of your records, contact the Michigan Air National Guard Headquarters at 517/483-5552. If your records are not at that location, they will either request them for you or refer you to the proper agency.

Michigan Army National Guard

Separated or retired: If you are separated or retired from the Michigan Army National Guard and need the medical records and/or information in your personnel file, call Sgt. 1st Class Tom Martin at (517) 483-8337. Be prepared to give your name, address, telephone number and social security number or

service number. If you are seeking information about a deceased family member, you will need to provide a copy of the death certificate.

AGR enlisted: Your medical records will be on file with your local unit. For other information, contact Sgt. Maj. John Creisher at (517) 483-8319.

Active Guard officers: Contact your unit or Sandy Kimball in the Army personnel office-officer branch at (517) 483-8335.

National Archives and Records Administration

If you are gathering information on one of your ancestors, the National Archives and Records Administration maintains records for certain time periods.

United States Army:

Officers before June 30, 1917

Enlisted before October 31, 1912

United States Navy:

Officers before 1903

Enlisted before 1886

Marine Corps:

Officers before 1896

Enlisted before 1905

Confederate Armed Forces:

Officers and enlisted men, 1861-1865

World War I Unit Records

Send a letter indicating the type of information you are seeking to: National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C. 20408. For military service, request form NATF 85; for pension information, request form NATF 86.

National Guard Bureau Historical Services

If you are interested in the establishment, lineage, or heraldry of National Guard units, contact National Guard Bureau, ATTN: Historical Services, NGB-PAI-H, 1411 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202-3259 or call them at (703) 607-2557.

You will also find a wealth of information at the Army Personnel office in Lansing. Contact Sgt. 1st Class Tom Martin at (517) 483-8337 for more information.

State Archives of Michigan

The State Archives of Michigan contains records of Michigan State Troops, roster names; individual records of enlisted U.S. Army soldiers; lineage of units, down to regiment size, including the Red Arrow Division and battle honors; and unit and personnel rosters of the 30th Infantry Division. The individual must have been from Michigan or the record will not be on file. The State Archives maintains historical data on World War I and prior to that war. With a few exceptions, records on Michigan soldiers are also on file with the National Archives and Records Administration. Military lineage series books can be located at the State Library of Michigan.

For more information, write to Michigan Historical Center, State Archives, 717 W. Allegan, Lansing, MI 48918-1800; call (517) 373-1408; or e-mail achives@sosmail.state.mi.us. The website for the State Archives is www.sos.state.mi.us/history/archive.html.

The State Archives does not have adequate staff to perform the research for you. They can, however, provide you with a list of individuals who, for a fee, will conduct the research on your behalf.

Medals, Decorations, and Awards

Requests for issue or replacement of medals, decorations, and awards should be directed to the specific branch in which the veteran served.

<u>Branch</u>	<u>Medals Documentation</u>	<u>In case of an appeal or problem</u>
Army	National Personnel Records Center Medals Section (NRPMA-M) 9700 Page Avenue St. Louis, MO 63132-5100	PERSCOM ATTN: TAPC-PDO-PA 200 Stovall Street Alexandria, VA 22332
Air Force (including Army Air Corps and Army Air Forces)	National Personnel Records Center Air Force Reference Branch-NRPMF 9700 Page Avenue St. Louis, MO 63132-5100	HQs, Air Force Personnel Center AFPC-DPPPR 550 C Street W, Suite 12 Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4714
Navy	Bureau of Naval Personnel Liaison Office, Room 5409 9700 Page Avenue St. Louis, MO 63132-5100	Chief of Naval Operations OPNAV 09B33 Awards and Special Projects Washington, DC 20350
Marine Corps	Bureau of Naval Personnel Liaison Office, Room 5409 9700 Page Avenue St. Louis, MO 63132-5100	Commandant HQs U.S. Marine Corps Awards Branch (MHM) Washington, DC 20380
Coast Guard	Bureau of Naval Personnel Liaison Office, Room 5409 9700 Page Avenue St. Louis, MO 63132-5100	U.S. Coast Guard Medals and Awards (PMP-4) Washington, DC 20593

Something to Smile About?

National Guard dental benefits explained



Beginning Feb. 1, 2001, National Guard members and their families are eligible for the new TRICARE Dental Program—which

may, or may not, be something to smile about.

“The premiums may seem pricey for families if each member doesn’t visit the dentist more than once or twice a year,” said Chief Warrant Officer Keli Algren, health services chief for the Michigan Army National Guard. “But this is a great option for individual Guard members and a good option for families that don’t have dental coverage and use the dentist for more than just a basic cleaning.”

TDP is a worldwide dental program that was previously available to active duty families only (under a different name). TDP allows a Reservist to select coverage for themselves in addition to, or instead of, the entire family. And it adapts to a Guardsman’s sometimes changing status—deployed or not deployed.

Another new feature allows National Guard members called to active duty in support of contingency operations to sign up family members without committing to a mandatory enrollment period. “This allows families to drop coverage when the military member returns to a civilian job with dental benefits,” said Algren. Families must be signed-up within 30 days of the deployment and the military member must sign the enrollment application. Beneficiaries must remain enrolled until the end of the members active duty period.



“Smiles” provided by (from left to right) Capt. Shawn Harris, Army National Guard Recruiting and Retention; Tech. Sgt. Denice Rankin, Headquarters, Air National Guard; and Staff Sgt. Dave Welsh, Counter Drug.

Enrollee Category	Premium Share	Premium Cost
Traditional Guard member, non-deployed	60% government 40% enrollee	\$7.63 per month
Traditional Guard family, military member not deployed	100% enrollee	*\$19.08 per month (one person) \$47.69 per month (more than one)
Traditional Guard member, deployed	n/a (member use active duty facilities)	no cost
Traditional Guard family, military member on active duty 30+ days	60% government 40% enrollee	*\$7.63 per month (one person) \$19.08 per month (more than one)
AGR family	60% government 40% enrollee	*\$7.63 per month (one person) \$19.08 per month (more than one)

* All eligible family members must be enrolled if any one of them is enrolled

TDP is administered by United Concordia Companies, Inc. Unlike dental programs of the past, military members work directly with United Concordia to set up coverage, bypassing an unnecessary “third party”—a military personnel office.

Maximum Benefits

The annual maximum benefit for dental services is \$1,200 per person; however, certain preventive and diagnostic services do not count against this.

Types of Plans

Under the *premium sharing plan* the enrollee pays 40 percent of the monthly premium and the government pays 60 percent. With the *full premium plan*, the service member is responsible for the full premium; the government does not share in the premium payments. (See chart below, left)

Eligibility

To be eligible, the Guard member must have at least 12 months remaining on his or her service commitment, except in cases of deployment.

All eligible family members must be enrolled if any one of them is enrolled. Exceptions include children ages one to three or a sponsor may elect to enroll only those eligible family members residing in one location when family members live in more than one geographic location.

Provider Network

Enrollees have the option of seeking care from any licensed dentist; however, if they use a non-participating provider, the enrollee may incur additional fees.

For the most current and complete information, including a list of local providers, call United Concordia at 1-800-866-8499, or visit their website at www.ucci.com. For enrollment information, call 1-888-622-2256.



Type of Service	Member's Cost Share E-1 to E-4	Member's Cost Share all others
Diagnostic	0%	0%
Preventive (except sealants)	0%	0%
Emergency Services	0%	0%
Sealants	20%	20%
Basic Restorative	20%	20%
Endodontic	30%	40%
Periodontic	30%	40%
Oral Surgery	30%	40%
Other Restorative	50%	50%
Prosthodontic	50%	50%
Orthodontic	50%	50%
General Anesthesia	40%	40%
Intravenous Sedation	50%	50%
Consultation/Office Visit	20%	20%
Medication	50%	50%
Post Surgical Services	20%	20%
Misc. (occlusal guard, mouthguard, bleaching)	50%	50%

Breathe Easy

TRICARE for Life

As the national health care debate drags on, it appears our nation's veterans, including National Guard retirees, will finally receive full health care coverage.

TRICARE for Life, which is scheduled to take effect Oct. 1, 2001, is a no cost, supplemental healthcare entitlement designed to pick-up where Medicare drops-off. With many specifics still unanswered, Department of Defense officials admit there are still hurdles to cross, but they are committed to implementing the program, according to the January issue of "Retired Officer."

Specifically, TRICARE for Life provides secondary coverage to Medicare. It pays all Medicare co-payments and deductibles when a Medicare provider is used. It also covers most pharmacy costs. There are no annual enrollment fees, premiums, or deductibles.

Eligibility

Retired National Guard members and their spouses are eligible for TRICARE for Life provided they are age 65 and enrolled in Medicare Part B (see Medicare Basics) giving them the same coverage as any other military retiree.

TRICARE for Life, however, does not apply to retirees who are not eligible for Medicare (due to retirement prior to contributing to Medicare through automatic payroll deductions). These retirees are eligible for TRICARE (the military's health care provider, not to be confused with TRICARE for Life) and may enroll in TRICARE Prime (where offered) or TRICARE Standard (formerly CHAMPUS). Pharmacy benefits are provided.

How TRICARE for Life works

Medicare will be the first payer for Medicare-covered services. Whether or not a

provider accepts TRICARE for Life is irrelevant. However, the provider must accept Medicare patients. Certified Medicare providers will qualify as TRICARE for Life approved providers. Patients that visit providers who do not participate in Medicare may use that provider with the understanding that TRICARE for Life may not cover the expenses.

Medicare and TRICARE for Life retirees remain eligible to use military treatment facilities, providing there is space available.

Medigap insurance coverage

Because TRICARE for Life is a second payer to Medicare and pays all co-payments and deductibles, there should be no need for additional Medigap insurance. The Medicare law does not require an individual to cancel Medigap coverage but stipulates that an insurer may not sell a Medigap supplemental insurance plan that duplicates coverage a beneficiary already has. (However, the Health Care Financing Administration, which oversees Medicare, has informed DoD that TRICARE for Life is not a supplemental policy and, therefore, the law does not apply.)

Prepare for TRICARE for Life

To prepare for TRICARE For Life, ensure your Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) data is up to date and enroll in Medicare Part B.

Your DEERS database should contain your current home address, marital status, and a list of family members. To report changes, including an adoption or a death, visit any military personnel office or mail the changes to DEERS Support Office, ATTN: COA, 400 Gigling Road, Seaside, CA 93955-6771. You may also fax changes to (831) 655-8317 or e-mail to addrinfo@osd.pentagon.mil.

More Information

Look for more information about TRICARE for Life as it becomes available in future issues of "The Wolverine Guard." You may also find additional information at www.troa.org/ontheweb.

Medicare Basics

Medicare is a health insurance program for people 65 years and older. It has two parts, Part A (hospital insurance) and Part B (medical insurance). Most people do not pay for Part A because they (or a spouse) paid Medicare taxes while working; however, most people pay for Part B. (The 2001 monthly premium is \$50 or \$600 a year.)

Most people are automatically enrolled in the Medicare program just before their 65th birthday and receive information in the mail. During this time, retirees have the option of enrolling in or declining Part B.

Retirees who are 65 or older and previously declined Part B, may sign up for it during the general enrollment period (Jan. 1 - March 31). To enroll in part B call Social Security at (800) 772-1213. More information may be found at www.medicare.gov.

Plus Three Makes 15

Michigan Guard Education Program Adds Up

Spring Arbor College, Oakland University and Kendall College of Art and Design (of Ferris State University) recently joined 12 other Michigan colleges or universities participating in the Tuition Grant Program. The grant, which provides a tuition discount for members of the Michigan Guard, coupled with the State Education Reimbursement Program, can offer a tuition-free education.

In other education news, Maj. Gen. E. Gordon Stump, the adjutant general, has announced that Michigan National Guard members no longer need to be MOS/AFSC qualified to

participate in the State Education Reimbursement Program. The change should allow more non-prior service members to participate, particularly those in a split training option. However, Guardsmen must have completed basic training. Exceptions include members in the Simultaneous Membership Program, ROTC Guaranteed Reserve Commitment, Officer Candidate School and direct appointments.

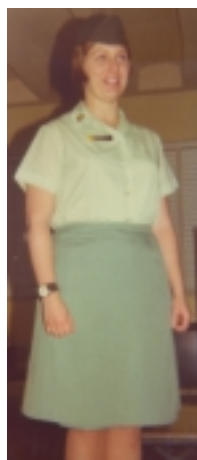
For more information on the Tuition Grant Program and the State Education Reimbursement Program, call the state education office at (517) 483-5685 or 5469.

Manpower Shortages

A short history of women in the military

By Capt. Dawn Dancer
State Public Affairs Office

From disguising themselves as male soldiers during our country's first wars, to the poster pin-ups of World War I, to strapping on the same combat boots that men wear today, women have played many roles during the history of our nation's military.



The uniform worn in the 1970s, went from duty uniform to PT uniform in a matter of seconds. "For PT we simply removed the lime-green wrap-around skirt; it had matching shorts underneath," explained Pam Woodworth, one of the Michigan National Guard's first WACs (left). "After PT, we put the skirt back on and we were ready for the next activity."

During the Revolutionary War, Mary Ludwig Hays McCauley was called "Molly Pitcher" for her dangerous work of carrying water to soldiers on the battlefield. When her husband was wounded, she manned his artillery gun until the British retreated that night.

During the Civil War, Canadian-born Sarah Emma Edmonds joined Company F, Second Michigan Infantry under the name Franklin Thompson. She served as a field nurse and later a Union spy.

During World War II, Rose Monroe, aka Rosie the Riveter, worked in an aircraft factory in Ypsilanti, Mich., pounding rivets into B-24 Bombers.

Over the decades, thousands of women have served; yet, one of the biggest battles is, and always has been, to let them serve at all.

During the Civil War, both the Union and Confederate armies forbade the enlistment of women; however, estimates show that as many as 250-400 women disguised themselves as men and fought alongside them.

In 1925, Congress passed a law barring women from military service outside the nursing corps—this following

World War I where nearly 13,000 women served in the Navy. Then, when women were needed during World War II, Congress had to draft new legislation in order to accept them.

During the 1940s, the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC), later to become the Women's Army Corps (WAC), was established. WAFs, women of the Air Force; WAVES, the Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron; and SPARS, the Coast Guard Women's Reserve were soon to follow. But full admittance and acceptance in the military proved slow, and time and time again, women were encouraged to return home to a more traditional role.

During the 1940s, women could not permanently enlist in the military. They were assigned to special auxiliary forces established to meet manpower shortages. They were excluded from combat and a two percent ceiling limited the number of women who could join. The ceiling was lifted in 1967 to ease the shortages in Vietnam.

Also in 1967, the National Guard, which had, by law, excluded women, passed legislation allowing them to join; however, little to no action came of this until 1973, when Maj. Gen. Weber, director of the Army National Guard encouraged their recruitment to increase strength.

Meanwhile, with a military-wide change to an all-volunteer force, the manpower shortage cracked-open the door for women.

Today, women are still barred from nearly all assignments that involve

In 1974, Glenda Jones and her two sisters (top, right) disobeyed their parents: they joined the Michigan National Guard. Twenty-six years later, Jones still encourages women to serve and recently participated in the re-enlistment ceremony of yet another sister. The four sisters, Lt. Col. Jones, Sgt. 1st Class Dorothy Smith; Sgt. 1st Class Elois Kline; and Senior Airman Paula Davis (bottom, right) say they're proud to serve. "It has given my life a great sense of purpose," said Smith listing professionalism, prestige and honor as other military traits she strongly believes in.



In the 1960s and 70s, the focus seemed to be on looking good, as illustrated in the unit sign above. "Back then we attended make-up classes," said Rhea Pruett, the first female chief warrant officer five in the Michigan Guard. "And weapons firing was voluntary for ladies, as we were called." In fact, guidelines were published in the November 1974 issue of "The Michigan National Guardsman" (known today as "The Wolverine Guard") stating, "It is imperative that commanders pay special attention to the proper utilization of their female soldiers. Women should never be required to fire weapons...(and) commanders should use common sense when assigning women to guard duty...such assignment should not be made to secluded posts, while guard duty at well-lit, busy posts, is generally permissible."

operating offensive weapons and ground fighting. In the Army, women may work in only 70 percent of the available jobs; the Marine Corps is at 62 percent. However, women in the Air Force and Navy are able to serve in virtually all areas.

The issue of women in combat continues to challenge, and sometimes divide, our nation's beliefs about the nature of war, the proper make-up of our military and the changing role of women. As the debate continues, women march on.



A Line in the Sand

Gulf War Memories



The 207th Evacuation Hospital, Detroit, was one of many Michigan National Guard units activated for the Gulf War. During their six month deployment to Saudi Arabia, the 207th responded to routine events such as sick call (top photo) and to events that only a war can provide, such as the Feb. 25, 1991 disaster when a scud hit the barracks of a Pennsylvania Army Reserve unit, killing 28 and injuring numerous others. The camel pictured in the bottom left photo is sure to bring back memories for many Gulf War veterans. Capt. Taufiek Alhadi, of the 207th, gets a closer look. Another familiar Gulf War image is that of Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf, shown here with then, Capt. Carla Sosa of the 207th (bottom, right).

Ten years ago, I was on an air base just outside Dhahran, Saudi Arabia. It was about midnight and I was receiving my first anthrax immunization, which was secret at the time. Col. Hodgeman was with me and remarked that the base was very quiet compared to his previous visits as part of the advanced party. It was Jan. 17, the day Desert Storm began.

By 3 a.m. the air raid warnings sounded. We were sitting in our MOPP suits waiting to be bombed or gassed by one of Iraq's 700 military aircraft. It was an eerie experience, made worse by the fact that our hospital was not set up yet. We just sat there waiting for something to happen.

I remember a unit member had a jammed zipper on his MOPP suit. While four of us tried to get his suit unfastened, I remarked that we couldn't afford to lose our best surgeon on the first night of the war.

The threat of bacteriological or chemical warfare was very real. We didn't get much sleep that first night.

Col. Harold Arrington

I was at home when I received the "raging bull" call and I responded with a, "what?!" The caller repeated, "This a raging bull call." I told her to stop playing games and I called her a liar. After ten minutes of trying to convince me, I finally accepted,

she was telling the truth. I hung up the phone and went into short term shock.

Over the next few days as our mobilization progressed, I purchased a special field wash basin from an Army-Navy supply store. I was so pleased with it! It was made of heavy duty plastic and collapsible. It retained its shape when you added water. Well, once in Saudi, everyone was waiting to use my basin. I poured water in it and it leaked all over the tent. There was a small hole in the plastic. I ended up throwing it out!

Maj. Deborah Ayers

On the day I got the call, I can tell you exactly what I was doing. It was November 17, 1990—National Smoke Out Day. I had quit smoking that morning and had gone the entire day without a cigarette for the first time since I started at age 14. I was telling my wife how good I felt, then I got the call. The next thing I did was lit up a cigarette and had three more after that.

Next I called my boss and told her I would not be in the next day because I had just been activated. She said something like, "Yeah, ok, I'll see you later." I hung up. Five minutes later I called her again. I asked her if she understood what I had said. She finally realized that I wouldn't be in the following day.

Two days later I briefly stopped by work. (I had just gone through the a promotion board and was in my Class As.) It was then that my employer finally realized I had been activated for Operation Desert Storm.

While my boss was in shock, you should have seen the look on my wife and kid's faces. How do you go from a civilian family to a military family overnight? Just ask any Desert Storm family.

Sgt. 1st Class Steve Parrow

Rumors of conflict in the Middle East were spreading during annual training in June 1990. Other Army units had already deployed to the Middle East by the end of summer but it seemed "business as usual" for us.

That fall, many of us attended a medical convention in Nashville. I remember very clearly the night I returned. I brought my bags into the house and turned on the television. There, on the local news, was unit member Sgt. Judy Storm saying we were officially ordered to active duty in support of Operation Desert Shield. My first response was, "My God, that means me!" Several hours later, I received the official call.

After six intense weeks of training at Fort McCoy, Wisc. (affectionately remembered as Fort McCold), we were off to Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

Most of my memories are of happy times spent with fellow soldiers. Other memories are sad, such as the time the Pennsylvania National Guard unit was hit by a Scud and our unit cared for the casualties. But most of all, I remember the pride I felt as a United States Army officer, nurse and soldier with the opportunity to serve my country and repay it for all the benefits I have been privileged to receive. I will also never forget the way we bonded, looked out for each other and helped each other get through a difficult time. And the love and support of the American people was something that will forever make me proud to be a member of this country's military.

To all my comrades in arms: I love you all, God bless you and welcome home!

Maj. Catherine A. Groth

Michigan Army and Air National Guard Promotions

Through Jan. 31, 2001

Army Guard

Brig. Gen.

LeClaire, Mitchell R.

Lt. Col.

Westman, Ronnie J.

Maj.

Gaylord, Lynn R.

Huff, Michael N.

Morey, Russell J.

Revers, Bruce A.

Roenicke, Franklin

Rudat, William F.

Wirtz, Roy C.

Capt.

Awadi, Mohamed G.

Haas, Kimberly J.

Kininger, Jeffrey T.

Leask, Marc T.

McCarron, Dennis

Randall, Chad D.

Spickard, Mack T.

1st Lt.

Bonney, Brian J.

Brown, Nathan S.

Davis, Kathleen H.

Fitzpatrick, Todd A.

Greene, Brian K.

Kuhns, Andrew F.

Nemetz, Michael J.

Reisinger, Melvyn

Wagenmaker, Tyler

Wilson, Steven R.

Warrant Officer

Four

Selph, Charles P.

Warrant Officer

Three

Ambrozaitis, Gabriel

Longton, Terry F.

Warrant Officer

Two

Vanalstine, Troy M.

Sgt. Maj.

Garceau, Danny J.

1st Sgt.

Lewek, Joseph Jr.

Master Sgt.

Atkinson, Robbie L.

Ellis, Daniel J., Jr.

Knarian, William M.

Kobel, Kenneth W.

Macher, Frank J.

Medina, Richard

Piper, Robert J.

Salters, Debra J.

Springer, Thomas

Taylor, James R.

Sgt. 1st Class

Ball, William A.

Carlson, Steven D.

Conley, Steven D.

Cooklin, Stephen G.

Courtier, Terry A.

Gilevich, Todd M.

Gregory, Joseph R.

Hackworth, David

Harrison, John H.

Morgan, Michael G.

Okon, George J.

Paulus, Kenneth M.

Porras, Henry C., III

Schnebelt, Phillip D.

Spohn, Randolph S.

Tramp, Paul E.

Vandermolen,

Tammy M.

Warren, Alvin E.

Staff Sgt.

Barrios, Quinn

Brinson, Edward E.

Dielman, Derrick D.

Elsberry, Tony M.

Hannum, David B.

Lacross, Robert K.

Lucas, Scott B.

Maltman, Glen A.

Martin, Richard C.S

McBride, Gregory

McDowell, Andrew

McNabb, Sean M.

Merry, James F. II

Mills, Daniel M.

Pappas, Nicholas J.

Schnobelen, Steven

Shipley, Lorrie A.

Sturgis, Eric J.

Welsheimer, Ronald

Williams, Randolph

Sgt.

Allen, Stacy M.

Bledsoe, Daniel M.

Burch, Shawn E.

Caverly, Calvin J.

Davie, Paula Y.

Decanter, Dean W.

Dent, Eric M.

Dorris, James A.

Eady, Daniel D.

Eason, Lael H.

Gendreau, Michael

Gibson, Matthew W.

Ginzel, Dale J.

Hahn, Charles I., Jr.

Harding, Vicki A.

Hauger, Jeffrey E.

Hertgers, Brenda L.

Holmden, David P.

Johnstone, Jeremy

Kelley, Sherry L.

Kish, Michelle M.

Koby, James G.

Korson, Duane P.

Letavish, Timothy J.

Liske, Ryan J.

Londot, Ryan A.

Lonsbery, Michael

McClung, James P.

Miranda, Jose L.

Mitchell, Ian Donald

Morgan, Rhonda K.

Mullen, Gay M.

Peterson, Rhonda R.

Petroskey Lawrence

Pigeon, Joseph R.

Porter, Duane N.

Posey, Laura L.

Quick, Andrew L.

Riha, Michael L.

Schnurer, Richard E.

Schueler, Dean G.

Schwartz, Eric R.

Shoener, Martin D.

Spann, Michael S.

Stratz, Michael J.

Straus, Mark A.

Tabor, John E.

Thorne, Virginia A.

Tucker, Deon L.

Vandop, Jared N.

Vermeulen, Jason E.

Waltman, Merrilee F.

Warner, Matthew T.

Wender, Ryan E.

Williams, Arnold W.

Winkler, Michael J.

Spc.

Baker, Rory F.

Bowers, Meranda S.

Bunnya, Hamza M.

Carlson, Charles P.

Cashman, Glenn A.

Choi, Hing C.

Clark, Kenneth L.

Combs, Nicole C.

Conyers, William D.

Cook, Benjamin J.

Cosner, James M.

Cross, Dawn M.

Davis, Michael D.

Dearman, Nicholas

Donaldson, Blake E.

Duncan, Michael T.

Evans, Tracy R.

Feltman, Jay R.

Foust, Daric P.

Gallon, Matthew J.

Garrett, Clinton B.

Golds, James T.

Gwyn, David E.

Hammond, Benjamin

Hammond, Joel W.

Heyboer, Luke N.

Hickox, David D.

Holkup, Sherry

Howard, Robert W.

Jeffrey, Mark E.

Klopp, Eric M.

Koch, Keith C., Jr.

Manning, Theaux D.

McAfee, Michael L.

Miller, Kelly J.

Mleko, Jeremiah J.

Morehead, Jason E.

Morris, Philip N.

Murray, Timothy E.

Newhouse, Nicholas

Newson, Gerry D.

Nichols, Earl S.

Palomaki, Sean J.

Paquin, Nichole R.

Radtke, Robert A.

Richards, Owen M.

Schultz, Jonathan K.

Sherlund, Benjamin

Smith, Derek S.

Solomon, Bradly J.

Soper, Joshua R.

Spencer, Eric S.

Stilson, James O.

Stone, Ryan P.

Surgent, Jaime M.

Terry, Keith A.

Thiede, Brendon P.

Wafer, Sean R.

Waldo, Jeannette C.

Warner, Amanda G.

Winslow, Timothy

Pvt. 1st Class

Austin, Matthew I.

Bailey, Clifford E.

Bartlett, Kyle E.

Belen, Jason L.

Boesler, Adam J.

Bostick, Robert A.

Brasseur, Anthony

Brooks Michael J.

Cobb, Jovanna C.

Coker, Lakeisha M.

Curran, Kathleen R.

Decremer, Korrie B.

Diaz, Louis L.

Dokes, Andre D.

Evans, Heather M.

Fiasky, Erica M.

Fitze, Corina R.

Flores, Ezequiel J.

Fowler, Wendy M.

Gallino, Lindsay S.

Garland, Sarah J.

Gavin, Jasin M.

Gayles, Stanhope, J.

Genow, Randall E. II

Geyser, Mollie E.

Goodall, Daniel R.

Gow, Anthony J.

Granville, Hubert G.

Greanya, Sarena A.

Green, Naketta C.

Harrell, Michelle L.

Harris, Troy S.

Heusinkveld, Aaron

Holly, Elmer L. III

Hundsrucker,

Timothy A.

Huska, Ryan J.

Huyck, Nicholas W.

Jados, Dennis D., Jr.

Johnson, David T.

Jones, Corinna L.

Klees, Jeremy R.

LaCourt, Stephen C.

Lafreniere, Crystal

Lancaster, Walter D.

Lawton, Venice Y.

Lemire, Ronald J., Jr.

Lincoln, Adam J.

Lipa, Maria L.

Lott, Jason P.

Maleport, Thomas J.

Mapps, Gabriel R.

Marrs, Eric K.

May, Kimberly A.

McMann, Julie A.

Miller, Aaron C.

Mireles, Rene C.

Nichols, Gerald L.

Olsen, Dennis J.

Pierce, Laurie

Pringle, Willie X.

Pulver, Kelly D.

Ransom, Crystal G.

Reynolds, Ralph E.

Rimer, Brent A., Jr.

Rottach, Paul M.

Rudzitis, Michelle

Schrader, Rick D.

Schultz, Jeremy M.

Shaw, Daniel M.

Skaggs, Roger D.

Sorensen, Sandy J.

Spaulding, Randall

Stamour, Daniel T.

Stewart, Ryan A.

Stick

Woods, Richard A.
Tech. Sgt.
 Boyd, Ethan S.
 Carnell, Scott D.
 Clark, Jerry L.
 Clemons, Alisa R.
 Cobaugh, Patrick K.
 Cook, Veronica L.
 Cox, Douglas A.
 Devers, Chani J.
 Ferguson, James R.
 Fickies, David S.


Fouche, Michael P.
 Gant, Herman H.
 Head, Eugene
 Hinkle, Clarence D.
 Hixenbaugh, David
 Hunt, Brian S.
 Hunt, Kevin A.
 Jones, Kevin P.
 Klaren, John R. Jr
 Klopfer, Gregory D
 Labruzzy, Michael
 Manning, John T.

Mayville, Robert W.
 McGaw, Douglas A.
 Merchant, David M.
 Patino, Scotty W.
 Ross, Scott E
 Snyder, Shawn E.
 Sokolowski, John A.
 Thompson, Mary H.
 Thornton, Miguel E.
 Tipton, Tracy D.
 Tyrer, Richard C.
 Vettraino, Carlo

Wells, Douglas E.
 White, Rodney G. Jr
 Williams, Lori A.
 Wilson, Scott P.
 Winters, Dennis E.
 Woods, Richard A.
 Zahm, Timothy M.
Staff Sgt.
 Bachelor, Brandon T.
 Diaz, John F.
 Divney, Mark A.
 Drallette, Derrick N.

Gover, Coraletta M.
 Gregory, Jamie L.
 Kaiser, Heather L.
 Lewandowski,
 Deborah A.
 Ley, John G. III
 Neumann, Jason M.
 Schroeder, Glenn E.
 Tagget, Rodney S.
 Todd, Damon K.
Senior Airman

Craft, Brian A.
 Daugherty, Daniel
 Fifelski, Erin
 Gomez, Neil H.
 Probyn, Patrick D.
 Smith, Jarrett B.
 Wagster, Robert E.
 Woods, Bree L.
Airman 1st Class
 Falster, Christopher


TAPS

Warrant Officer Leonard L. Hoyum (ret), 54, April 23, 2000

Maj. Russell R. Kempker (ret), 84, Oct. 3, 2000

Staff Sgt. Donald E. Turskey (ret), 67, Nov. 17, 2000

Sgt. 1st Class Earl H. Kangas (ret), 65, Nov. 19, 2000

Tech. Sgt. Kenneth L. Jones, 47, Nov. 27, 2000

Lt. Col. Frank O'Neill (ret), 65, Nov. 29, 2000

Staff Sgt. Patrick L. Eagen (ret), 66, Dec. 2, 2000

Lt. Col. William E. McKenzie (ret), 79, Dec. 8, 2000

Master Sgt. Dallas R. Zink (ret), 64, Dec. 8, 2000

Spc. Five Robert W. Gruenwald, 57, Dec. 9, 2000

Master Sgt. Gary G. Smith, 50, Dec. 13, 2000

Staff Sgt. Thomas S. Francisco (ret), 67, Dec. 20, 2000

Master Sgt. Floyd W. Snyder, 71, Dec. 25, 2000

Master Sgt. Roger M. Turner (ret), 85, Jan. 4, 2001

Maj. Gen. Ronald D. McDonald (ret), 90, Jan. 10, 2001

Taps

Day is done,
 Gone the sun,
 From the lakes, from the hills, from the sky.
 All is well,
 Safely rest,
 God is nigh.

Fading light,
 Dims the sight,
 And a star, gems the sky, gleaming bright.
 From afar,
 Drawing nigh,
 Fall the night.

Thanks and praise,
 For our days,
 'Neath the sun, 'neath the stars, 'neath the sky.
 As we go,
 This we know,
 God is nigh.

-- Author unknown

Former Adjutant General Dies

Former Adjutant General of Michigan Maj. Gen. Ronald D. McDonald (ret) passed away Jan. 10, 2001. He was 90.

McDonald started his military career in the Michigan Army National Guard in 1930 as an enlisted member. He accepted his appointment as a second lieutenant, field artillery officer, in 1933. On April 7, 1941, McDonald was ordered to active duty by the War Department and served on active duty until 1945. He returned to the Michigan Guard and continued to serve in a variety of assignments. In 1959 he was appointed to his final assignment as the adjutant general of Michigan and served for six years. He retired in 1968.

McDonald remained active in various Guard activities after his retirement. He was present every year at the annual Camp Grayling Review and Memorial and this past fall he attended the National Guard Association of the United States General Conference in Atlantic City, N.J. where he received the Senior Minuteman Award in recognition as the oldest officer in attendance.



Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Ronald D. McDonald is pictured (left) in 1960 and this past summer (right) at Camp Grayling.

Next Issue...

Distance Learning Classrooms

Plus

- 119th Field Artillery
at the National Training Center
- 126th Press Camp Headquarters
in Bosnia

Sgt. 1st Class Jackie Wiggins, first sergeant of the 263rd Personnel Services Detachment tries-out the distance learning classroom at the Headquarters Armory in Lansing. The Michigan Army National Guard currently has six such classrooms. Read how they are used by both Guardsmen and community members, in the next issue of "The Wolverine Guard." (Photo by 1st Lt. Bill Wilcox, Information Management)

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